(f) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) The decennial population census was held in J&K in the year 1981 with reference date as 6.5.81. The population of each region at that time is given below:

Jammu	:	27,18,113
Kashmir	:	31,34,904
Ladakh	:	1,34,372

(b) The last decennial population census of 1991 could not be taken in the State of J&K due to the disturbed conditions prevailing at that time.

(c) The intensive revision of the electoral rolls was undertaken in J&K State in the year 1988 (partly) and 1989 (partly). The electorate at that time was 41,41,369. The electorate as on 31.8.96 was 47,48,759. The regionwise break up is:—

Jammu	22,13,714	Plus Service
Kashmir :	23,71,207	voters = 27,881
Ladakh :	1,35,957	

(d) The Delimitation Commission was set up on 2nd December, 1981 and thereafter has been reconstituted from time to time. The final order of the Delimitation Commission was published on 27th April, 1995 which forms the basis of the current assembly elections in the State.

(e) Yes sir.

(f) It is for the courts to decide the cases pending before them.

Railways Outstanding Against Power Utilities

*531. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount which the power utilities owe to the Railways against the coal haulage from the pit-heads to thermal power plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation and the various States;

(b) the break-up of the amount outstanding against the various defaulters;

(c) whether it is proposed to recover the same; and

(d) the difficulties that Railways face to ensure timely payment of coal haulage charges by the consignees concerned and the manner in which it is proposed to tackle the issue?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The total amount outstanding against National Thermal Power Corporation, Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, and various States Electricity Boards on account of railway freight charges is Rs. 977.69 crore as on 30.6.96.

(b) The amounts outstanding against the various defaulters as on 30.6.96 are given below:—

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of the State Electricity Board/Power House	Amount
1.	A.P. State Electricity Board	22.29
2.	Assam State Electricity Board	4.12
3.	Bihar State Electricity Board	3.96
4.	Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking	94.14
5.	Gujarat State Electricity Board	4.62
6.	Haryana State Electricity Board	44.26
7.	Karnataka Electricity Board	0.17
8.	Maharashtra Electricity Board	20.06
9.	M.P. State Electricity Board	2.34
10.	Punjab State Electricity Board	13.99
11.	Rajasthan State Electricity Board	1.53
12.	Tamilnadu State Electricity Board	0.05
13.	U.P. State Electricity Board	36.87
14.	W.B. State Electricity Board	15.19
15.	N.T.P.C./Badarpur T.P.P.	688.19
16.	N.T.P.C./Others	25.91
	Total	977.69

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main difficulty which the Railways face is the failure of the power utilities to pay the freight charges whenever consignments are booked on 'To Pay' basis. The following important steps have been taken for timely recovery of coal haulage charges:

(a) Keeping a constant dialogue with the authorities of the power utilities for expeditious clearance of dues.

(b) Occasional stoppage of supply of wagons and delivery of consignments, as an extreme step.

(c) Keeping 15% difference between "To Pay" and "Paid" freight.

(d) Introduction of advance payment scheme through a deposit by the concerned State Electricity Board, of one month's transactions in advance in the destination Railway.

(e) Compulsory pre-payment of freight, where consignments are now booked on 'To Pay' basis, w.e.f. 1.10.96.

It is expected that with the introduction of the measures at (d) and (e), the position in this regard will improve.

Protection to Forests

*532. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:
KUMARI SUSHEELA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nepali Forest Mafia operating in Terai Region of Indo-Nepal Border has killed a number of forest guards during the last several years;

(b) if so, the number of forest guards killed during the last three years;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has submitted a ambitious project for the protection of 416 kms. long forest in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the assistance sought for the purpose;

(e) the time by which the funds sought for the project are likely to be sanctioned; and

(f) the measures proposed to be taken to provide protection to the forest areas in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As reported by the state governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh five forest guards have been killed during last three years in Tarai Region of Indo-Nepal border.

(c) to (e) A Project on 'Protection Measures Against Illicit Felling in U.P. Forest Areas Adjoining Nepal' has been submitted by the U.P. Government to Planning Commission, Government of India with a proposed cost of Rs. 12.18 crores, over a three year period, in six forest divisions, covering an area of 2.73 lakh ha. The Project is under consideration of Planning Commission for financial assistance to U.P. Forest Department.

The Proposed Project cost in three successive years is as under:—

S.No.	Major Head	Ist year	IInd year	IIIrd Year	Total
1	Establishment	125.40	234.96	243.36	603.72
2	Vehicles and communication	214.20	93.00	43.40	350.60
3	Civil works	95.05	45.00	30.00	170.05
4	Support Activities	30.45	31.20	32.45	94.10
	Total	465.10	404.16	349.21	1218.47

(f) Measures proposed to be taken to provide protection to the forest areas are as under:—

- Intensive patrolling in the sensitive areas
- Strengthening of the communication network
- Revamping and strengthening of armed forest protection force
- Provision of arms and ammunition to the forest staff
- Involvement of NGO's for prevention of illicit felling
- Coordination between various law enforcing agencies
- Establishment of forest check post with armed squad with facility of fast communication and movement
- Provision of additional vehicles for field inspections and for beat and highway patrolling
- Establishment of Watch Towers and Transmission Towers at strategic points
- Formation of a Trans-Boundary Conservation Board.

Decline in DAP Production

*533. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been sharp decline in the production of diammonium phosphate (DAP) during the last six months or so in the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline in the DAP production and the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated shortage of fertiliser anticipated during the coming months; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage of DAP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.